

[54] **COMPOSITE-TAPE PLACEMENT HEAD**

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[56]

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[57]

ABSTRACT

An integrally complete composite-tape placement head for direct attachment to a host gantry type of machine, which tape placement head is designed to precisely apply preimpregnated fiber reinforced tape to a work piece. The tape is initially supplied in the form of a roll with a suitable backing. The tape is automatically peeled from the backing by a separator mechanism and thereafter applied to the work piece. A powered cut-off device is actuated by a photoelectric mechanism to sever the tape at a proper location and at a preestablished angle. The determination of the pre-established angle is accomplished by a photoelectric edge sensing mechanism.

22 Claims, 11 Drawing Figures

